

### Remarks

The Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 9, 14 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form.

The Applicants have accordingly cancelled all of the existing claims and replaced them with new Claims 23-34 for the sake of simplicity. New Claim 23 contains the subject matter of Claims 1 and 9. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 23 is Claim 9 rewritten into independent form. Confirmation of allowance is respectfully requested.

New Claims 24, 25, 26 and 27 are the same as original Claims 4, 5 and 6, respectively, except that they now depend directly or indirectly on new Claim 23. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that they are also in condition for allowance.

New Claim 28 includes the subject matter of original Claims 10 and 14. Thus, new Claim 28 is Claim 14 rewritten into independent form. Confirmation of allowance is respectfully requested.

Claims 29 and 30 are the same as original Claims 12 and 13, except that they depend on new Claim 28. They should also be in condition for allowance.

New Claim 31 contains the subject matter of original Claims 1 and 16. Thus, Claim 31 is Claim 16 rewritten into independent form. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 31 is in condition for allowance. Confirmation is respectfully requested.

Claims 32, 33 and 34 are the same as Claims 20, 21 and 22, respectively, except that they depend on allowable Claims 23, 23 and 28, respectively. Allowance of those claims is also respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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